

Message Text

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PAGE 01 NEW DE 13630 091322Z

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 /051 W

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R 091240Z OCT 75

FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1678

INFO USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE NEW DELHI 13630

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US, PINT

SUBJ: FOREIGN PRESS SITUATION

1. UPI: FOLLOWING A WEEK WITHOUT TELEPHONE AND
TELEX SERVICE FOR INFRACTIONS OF GOI CENSORSHIP
REGULATIONS UPI WAS ADVISED YESTERDAY BY CHIEF CENSOR
HARRY D'PENHA THAT SERVICE WOULD BE RESTORED IMMED-
IATELY. AS OF MIDDAY ON THURSDAY THE PROMISE HAD
NOT BEEN IMPLEMENTED.

2. REUTERS: BOTH REUTERS AND THE AUSTRALIAN
BROADCASTING COMPANY ARE WITHOUT COMMUNICATIONS
FOLLOWING THE CUTOFF YESTERDAY FOR FILING REPORTS
ABOUT A RIOT AND THE BEATING OF POLITICAL PRISONERS
LAST WEEK AT DELHI'S TIHAR JAIL.

3. PM GANDHI ON CENSORSHIP: IN A MEETING YESTERDAY
WITH VISITING MEMBERS OF THE CHICAGO COUNCIL ON
FOREIGN RELATIONS THE PRIME MINISTER ADMITTED THE
GOI HAD BUNGLED ITS HANDLING OF PRESS CENSORSHIP
BECAUSE THEY HAD NO PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE IN THIS
FIELD. CITING EXAMPLES OF MISHANDLING SHE ALSO
SAID THAT AS FAR AS FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS WERE
CONCERNED INDIA HAD NO ALTERNATIVE BUT TO TREAT
THEM THE SAME WAY AS THE DOMESTIC PRESS. RETIRED
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CHICAGO DAILY NEWS EXECUTIVE BILL STEVEN CAME AWAY

FROM THE MEETING WITH THE IMPRESSION THAT MRS GANDHI
WOULD LIKE TO RECTIFY THE SITUATION VIS-A-VIS THE
EXPELLED NEWSMEN IF THERE WERE SOME POLITIC WAY
OF DOING IT.
SCHNEIDER

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NNN

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